



Alzheimer's State Plan Update, Executive Board

Minutes of the Meeting held September 21, 2016

URI Ryan Institute
7 Greenhouse Road, Suite 215
Kingston, RI 02881

Attendance:

- Thomas Enright, Esq. Acting Chair
- Daniel J. McKee, Lieutenant Governor
- Sandra Fournier, NHP of RI
- Catherine Taylor, URI
- William Renehan, URI Ryan Institute
- Christine Gadbois, The Providence Center
- Kathleen McKeon, Diocese of Providence

Also, present from the Lt. Governor's Office

- Craig Dwyer
- Tabatha Dube
- Anthony Silva

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Acting Chair, Tom Enright at 9:13am.

Introductions were made to the new member of Lieutenant Governor's office, Tabatha Dube, and she was officially given a warm welcome. New member, Kathleen Kelly, was not in attendance to be introduced.

Approval of the Minutes:

The minutes from the last meeting, which was held on June 15, 2016 were presented. Hearing no discussion, a motion was made by William Renehan and seconded by Christine Gadbois to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was passed unanimously and the minutes were approved at 9:15am.

Grants:

Sandra Fournier stated that she hasn't received any request to search for grants and as soon as they do they will begin searching.

Q: William Renehan: What are the options and opportunities? Grants from the State? What can we do as a group to obtain grants?

A: Sandra Fournier: Grant resources are available and there are a number of them out there that could tie into the ideas of the group. We need to know the details of what exactly you are looking for.

Steering Committee – support neuroscience – focus on Neuro-degenerative diseases. Goal to make RI the go to place for Alzheimer's care and research. COBRE Grant to support biomedical research from NIH. 1-1.5 years to put everything together. Hiring a grant specialist to help.

URI – translational research – will fit nicely with the resources in Providence. Sharing resources. Brown would love basic research to be done in Providence.

COBRE grant requires a core that can support shared research equipment.

IMBRE provides a core lab that young investigators from all over the state can use it for a very small fee.

Q: Is there something that this board can do to assist?

A: William Renehan: At the moment I can't think of a way of this board to help out. When it comes time to do the application, the board will be very helpful to improve our outreach to stakeholders. Looking for contacts and practice partners for research. Board is the biggest resource.

Craig Dwyer: Someone from Dr. Salloway's office will be at the October meeting.

Lt. Governor: Had a meeting with Dr. Salloway and there could be some level of connection to the NLGA's 'BE THE CURE' for diversity in clinical trials. We need to look at what other states are doing to create the diversity in clinical trials.

William Renehan: Biggest challenges is getting people to participate in the trials. Getting the word out is going to be the key to have people interested.

Kathleen McKeon: Senior agenda conference in October is a great way to give people basic information. Never seen a table focused on trials. Looking for non-traditional ways to get the word out.

Need multiple language outreach materials. Need a culturally competent staff that speak different languages and a diverse group of service providers to be able to speak with participants.

Discussion ensued.

Sub Group Responses:

Tom Enright stated that he will commit to fill out the form before the next meeting.

Legal issues/safe driving:

Main legal issue is safe driving, regulations, procedures, governing, testing, taking away and testing people with signs of Alzheimer's and dementia. DMV brought in when creating the plan, they were open to working together. DMV needs to do what's right for the person and need to protect themselves as well.

Picking back up in the fall and talk with Anthony Silva to see what assistance he can bring. Tom Enright reaching back out to Attorney and students to reconvene the group and getting going again.

Engaging URI Interns from Communications Program:

William Renehan: Harrington School of Communications has a very active internship program. They could assist with the creation of brochures and media.

Discussion ensued.

Sub-Committees reports:

Meeting State plan goals – Tom Enright and Donna staff circulated a new update, need to fill out and recirculate, reach out to Maria and Kathleen.

Kathleen McKeon: We have powerful tools at the caregiver program. This past week two (2) people have qualified as master trainers. Now they can teach the training classes. Two (2) leaders are going to teach a class for NHP members. Caregiver alliance moving towards becoming an entity. Over a year ago legislation passed that when the state evaluates someone for long term care the caregiver needs to answer a short screen. Haven't seen progress, going back to DHS to check if the survey is being filled out.

Planning for the second research conference April 28th. Working on agenda and funding. A lot of new research to update. Here at URI Oct 14th-16th Hack-A-Thon everyone invited. Problems to be hacked by the students.

Discussion ensued.

Websites:

URI website – Ryan Institute has a website – including many links. Provides information on what the research plan is about. Comprehensive guide being developed by the Seven Hills grant. Partnerships with Dr. Salloway to be hosted on the website as well.

Announcements:

William Renehan: Handed out his newsletter. Addresses the fact that there is now, over the past year, substantial evidence on how lifestyle choices can reduce the risk of cognitive decline and Alzheimer's disease.

Part of the Ryan Institute outreach is to put these efforts in place. We would like to include as many Rhode Islanders as possible in fitness, diet plans and engage in activities to reduce their chance in cognitive decline. Hoping to revitalize SHAPE UP RI. Something that people with a risk to participate in. There are a number of ideas being tossed around.

Catherine Taylor: Dr. Salloway is interested in being partners with this idea.

Lt. Governor: I am visiting YMCA and Boys & Girls clubs to promote healthy lifestyles.

Discussion ensued.

Lt. Governor: We have a TV show out of Lt. Governor's office to highlight the projects that the office is involved in. Leading up to session in April we could do a show to reach out to the people that aren't going to knock on our doors.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on October 19, 2016 at Seven Hills.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 10:17am by Tom Enright. All attendees were invited on a tour guided by William Renehan.